

WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Habitat Management for Streaked Horned Lark at Damon Point

2. Name of applicant: **David Hays, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: **600 Capitol Way N. Olympia, WA 98501-1091
360-902-2366**

4. Date checklist prepared: **June 18, 2013**

5. Agency requesting checklist: **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **September - November of 2013**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

No

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

We will be mapping native plant communities during the project period.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain. **No**

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

None known

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The focus of this project is to improve nesting habitat for the Streaked Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris strigata*) at Damon Point in Grays Harbor County. The streaked horned lark is a subspecies of lark that breeds and winters in Oregon and Washington. It is listed as a state endangered species and federal candidate species under the Endangered Species Act. Historically, the streaked horned lark breeding range included prairie and open coastal habitats from southwestern British Columbia along the Washington coast and Columbia River Islands, and through the Puget Trough south to possibly Eugene, Oregon, and in the Rogue River Valley south to Medford Oregon.

Currently breeding is limited to 11 locations in Pierce, Thurston, Mason, Pacific, Grays Harbor, and Wahkiakum counties. At Damon Point, Washington, 17 streaked horned lark territories were identified in 2004, and 4-5 territories were identified in 2006. Since 2006, no territory mapping has been conducted, but transect surveys indicate the site continues to be occupied. The federally threatened and state endangered western snowy plover was found at Damon Point as recently as 2006.

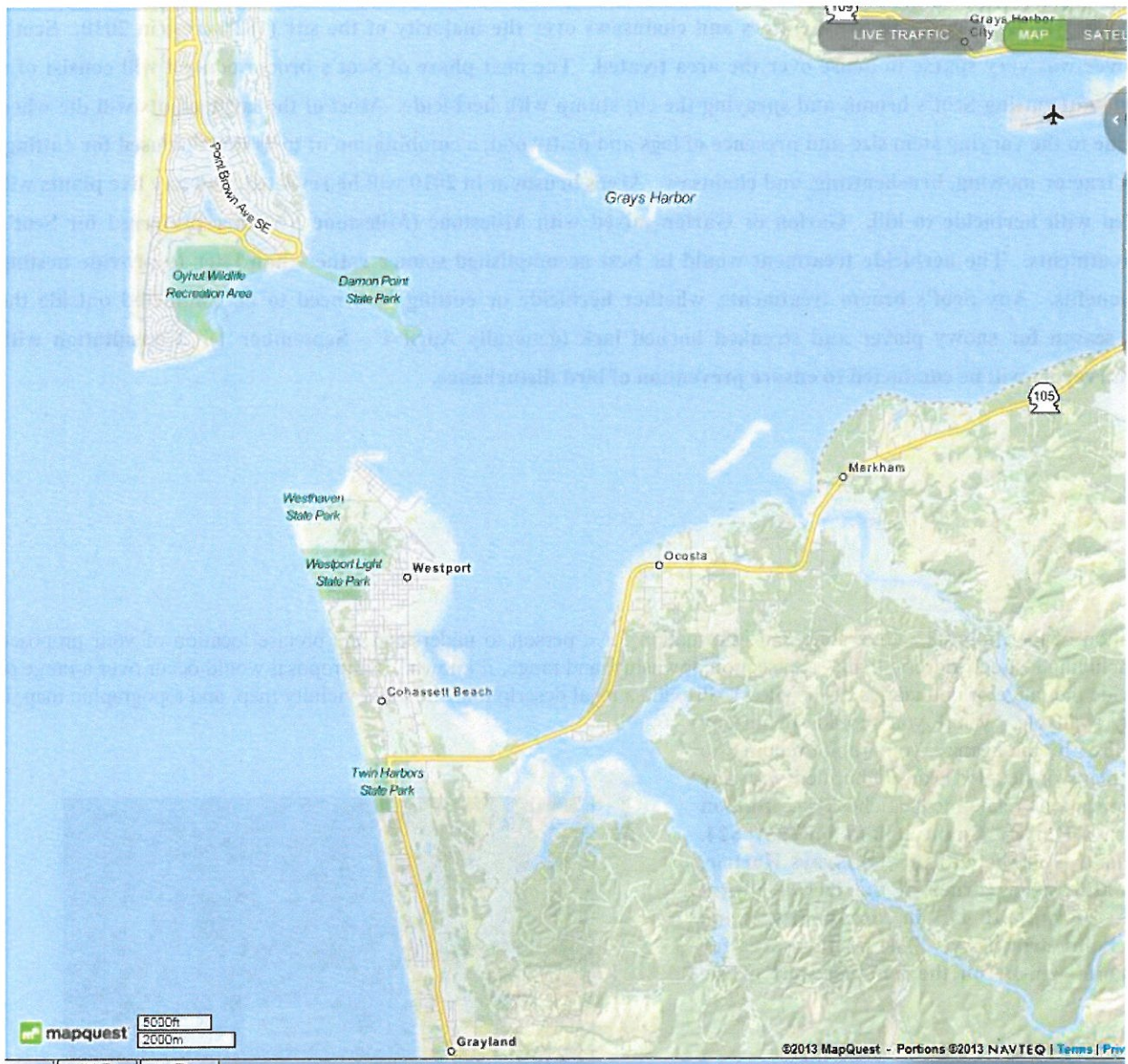
On the Washington Coast, larks use sparsely vegetated sandy areas for breeding and overwintering. Sand deposition and erosion create this habitat type. At Damon Point, this habitat occurs both at the exterior margins of the shoreline, as well as interior sparsely vegetated grasslands. Shrubs and trees make breeding habitat unsuitable for the Streaked Horned Lark. Streaked horned larks generally avoid areas with greater than 15 percent cover of Scot's broom, and recommended that Scot's broom be controlled to maintain breeding habitat.

Scot's broom, trees, and shrubs have become established at Damon Point in recent years. WDFW, concerned about the invasion (which is predominantly Scot's broom), discussed the potential for cooperative habitat management with Washington Department of Natural Resources staff. The bulk of the funding for the current project is provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Scot's broom was hand-cut with brushcutters and chainsaws over the majority of the site (182 acres) in 2010. Scot's broom cover was very sparse to dense over the area treated. The next phase of Scot's broom control will consist of a combination of cutting Scot's broom and spraying the cut stump with herbicide. Most of the large plants will die when cut, but due to the varying stem size and presence of logs and driftwood, a combination of tools must be used for cutting, including tractor mowing, brushcutting, and chainsaw. Areas brushcut in 2010 will be revisited, and any live plants will be sprayed with herbicide to kill. Garlon or Garlon mixed with Milestone (Milestone VM) are preferred for Scot's broom treatments. The herbicide treatment would be best accomplished sooner rather than later to provide nesting habitat benefits. Any Scot's broom treatments, whether herbicide or cutting, will need to be conducted outside the breeding season for snowy plover and streaked horned lark (generally April 1 – September 1). Consultation with WDFW surveyors will be conducted to ensure prevention of bird disturbance.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist. **Damon Point, Grays Harbor County; T17N R12W S24. Damon Point is at the entrance to Grays Harbor, on the southeastern corner of the Ocean Shores peninsula. From SR 115 in Ocean Shores, go south on Point Brown Ave. The parking area for Damon Point will be on the left just west of the marina.**





TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

a. General description of the site (circle one): **Flat**, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous,
other

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat,
muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime
farmland. **Beach sand**

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so,
describe. **Soils are very unstable. Sand erodes and accretes every winter.**

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed.
Indicate source of fill. **None**

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. **Work is intended to
allow natural sand movement to occur. Currently, Scot's broom is preventing natural sand movement.**

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project
construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? **None**

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: **None**

a. **Air**

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile,
odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If
any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. **Minor exhaust from motors on brushcutters,
tractors.**

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. **None**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: **None**

3. Water

a. Surface:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into. **Damon Point is surrounded on three sides by Pacific Ocean and Grays Harbor.**
- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans. **Some of the areas to be treated with herbicide (cut stump treatment) may be within 200ft of the water, but are greater than 100 feet from the high tide line.**
- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material. **None**
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **None**
- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. **Site is impacted by winter storms on a regular basis.**
- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge. **No**

b. Ground:

- 1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **No**
- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve. **None**

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe. **None**

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. **No**

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any: **None**

4. Plants

- a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

_____ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
_____ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, **pine**, other **Sitka spruce**
_____ **shrubs**
_____ **grass**
_____ pasture
_____ crop or grain
_____ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
_____ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
_____ other types of vegetation

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? **Invasive shrubs and trees, primarily Scot's broom.**

- c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. **None**

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: **None**

5. Animals

- a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: **hawk**, heron, **eagle**, **songbirds**, other: **snowy owls in winter**
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: **seals**
fish: bass, **salmon**, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. **Streaked horned lark, snowy plover**

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. **Pacific Flyway**
- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: **The purpose of the project is to preserve breeding habitat for the sate-endangered streaked horned lark.**

6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc. **Gasoline for power tools**
- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. **No**
- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: **None**

7. Environmental health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe. **Herbicide use on Scot's broom.**

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required. **None expected**

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: **Minimization of herbicide use: spot sprays with backpack sprayers equipped with drift guards, and use of basal stem applications.**

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? **None**
- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site. **Engine noise from power tools during mid-day work hours.**

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: **None**

8. Land and shoreline use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? **Former state park; public beach, open space, wildlife habitat. Marina to east, wildlife area to west.**

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe. **No**

c. Describe any structures on the site. **None**

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? **None**

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? **Damon Point is a public beach and belongs to Washington State Department of Natural Resources.**

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? **N/A**

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify. **Breeding site for state-endangered birds. Site has been location of environmental cleanups in recent years: removal of creosote-treated pilings by DNR, and removal of a fuel-laden shipwreck by ECY.**

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? **None**

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? **None**

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: **None**

1. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

9. **Housing**

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. **None**
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. **None**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: **None**

10. **Aesthetics**

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? **None**
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? **None**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: **None**

11. **Light and glare**

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? **None**
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? **No**
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? **None**
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: **None**

12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? **Beach walking, bird watching**
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. **No**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: **None**

13. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe. **None**
- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site. **None**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any: **None**

14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any. **Access is from Marine View Dr in Ocean Shores, which can be reached by either Point Brown Ave or Ocean Shores Blvd.**
- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop? **None**
- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate? **None**
- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). **No**

- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. **No**
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur. **None additional**
- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: **None**

15. Public services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. **No**
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. **None**

16. Utilities

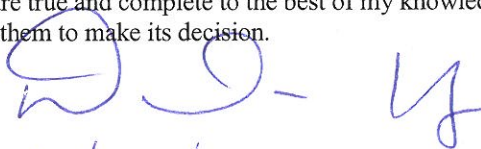
- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other. **None**
- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed. **None**

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:

Date Submitted:


6/25/2013